THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

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PRESS RELEASE

April 3, 1987

LECTURE ON BRITISH WATERCOLORS AT THE MUSEUM SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1987

Patrick Noon, Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, Connecticut, will lecture on "Noble Interests and Profound Passions: Watercolor Landscapes in Britain," at The Cleveland Museum of Art on Sunday, April 12, at 2:30 pm. The public is invited to attend this free annual lecture sponsored by The Print Club of Cleveland.

Mr. Noon will survey watercolor landscape painting by nearly forty British artists who worked from 1750 to 1850, including key figures John Robert Cozens (1752-97); Thomas Girtin (1775-1802); Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775-1851), considered the most important watercolor artist of his generation; Richard Parkes Bonington (1801/2-28); and John Frederick Lewis (1805-76). He will relate their works to the aesthetic theories of the period, as well as to the economic and social factors contributing to the development of romantic landscape painting in Britain. The title of his lecture is taken from Modern Painters by John Ruskin (1819-1900), in which the English critic comments that what made landscape painting "art" were the "noble interests" of the subject matter and the "profound passions" of the painters.

The Yale Center for British Art--the museum and its collection--were the gifts of Paul Mellon to Yale University. Mr. Noon has organized numerous exhibitions of British art since he joined the curatorial staff of the Center, which opened in 1977. Prior to joining the Yale Center, he was a curatorial intern at The Toledo Museum of Art. Mr. Noon is currently preparing an exhibition of the watercolors of Richard Parkes Bonington.

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